

Dayton's Bluff DISTRICT FORUM

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www.daytonsbluff.org

November 2008

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A familiar face returns home to Dayton's Bluff



Photo by Karin DuPaul

Now do you recognize the mystery object being carved in a tree stump that we showed you last month? See page 7 for the details.

November Events

Saturday, November 1
Take a Hike

Tuesday, November 4
Election Day

Thursday, November 6
Community Meeting

Tuesday, November 11
Steve Trimble Book Reading

Friday, November 14
Cerenity Holiday Craft Sales

Saturday, November 22
Bethlehem Lutheran Craft Sale

Thursday, November 27
Thanksgiving

For more information on these events read this paper, contact
Karin@daytonsbluff.org
or call 651-772-2075

Farewell from our president

By Wally Waranka

For the past two years I have been honored to serve this community as your President of the Dayton's Bluff council. I have enjoyed my time and hope I have represented you all well.

I hope that I have been able to help keep the neighborhood moving forward and help start a few new things for the future. Although I won't be President, I still plan to be a part of building a business association, as well as looking at new ways to keep promoting our neighborhood as being a great place to live and work.

In addition, I am looking forward to the beginning of the annual celebration for Dayton's Bluff where we can showcase all of the great things we have and recognize the great things that have been accomplished.

This last year I tried via my articles in the *Forum* to see if I could get some

feedback from other neighbors. I did get some responses. Some may have been negative at times, but they represent a part of who we are in Dayton's Bluff.

I would like to let you all know that we have some fantastic people giving their time by serving on the council and trying to do the right things for our neighborhood. Yes, there is always the bad we can focus on and there will be always things to work on, but the more we do attack these issues the more they will get smaller and eventually go away. Believe me we are trying to attack them.

I would like to personally challenge each and every one of you who are reading this to look around and see how you can offer help to keep our neighborhood moving forward.

It does not have to be a big dramatic effort. On the contrary, every action helps no matter how small. One way to be a part and an informed neighbor is to read your *Forum*, and if you see anything in the paper that interests you come out and be a part of it, please. As my last two years have shown me, we, the council, are only as effective as the feedback we get from you.

Don't hesitate to let us know what we can do to help keep Dayton's Bluff a great place to live. And don't hesitate to help us remain that way.

I won't be going away and I will always be a proud Dayton's Bluff resident in this great area of Saint Paul.

Looking for Neighborhood Honor Roll Candidates

The Dayton's Bluff District 4 Community Council is looking for three people in Dayton's Bluff to add to the honor roll this year. If you know of someone who has done an outstanding job of volunteer work in Dayton's Bluff, call Karin at 772-2075 or email Karin@DaytonsBluff.org for more information.

The Saint Paul Neighborhood Honor Roll started in the 1980s and is a listing of Saint Paul citizens who have done outstanding service in their neighborhoods over a long period of time. Each year all 17 District Councils can add three names to the honor roll. Past honor roll inductees volunteered for years at a church or a school, served on their community council board of directors, block club leaders, led projects like buckthorn removal or spearheaded a community event.

Last year the Dayton's Bluff District 4 Community Council added Jacob Dorer, Jean Comstock, and Juanita Westman, for their years of service in the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood.

The Saint Paul Neighborhood Honor Roll is located in the hallway on the third floor of Saint Paul City Hall. The quality and amount of volunteer time that make our communities better is amazing in Saint Paul.

**Dayton's Bluff District 4
Community Council
798 East 7th Street
Saint Paul, MN 55106**

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Dayton's Bluff Community Meeting

The next Community Meeting is **Thursday, November 6th** from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the meeting room at the Dayton's Bluff Community Council, 798 East 7th Street at the corner of 7th and Margaret.

The Dayton's Bluff Community Council holds its Community Meeting on the 1st Thursday of each month. The purpose is to work with block clubs and neighborhood residents on problem properties, criminal and nuisance behavior, code enforcement issues and any other neighborhood issues, concerns, and/or new ideas for improvement in Dayton's Bluff.

If you can get me the addresses of problems ahead of time I can get them to the police and code enforcement. Then they can bring information about the problems to the meeting. Remember, it's always on the 1st Thursday of the month. All Dayton's Bluff residents are welcome to attend. If you need more information email Karin@DaytonsBluff.org or call Karin at 651-772-2075.

Meet with the police

The Eastern District Police host their monthly meetings for community members at 722 Payne on the corner of Payne and Minnehaha Avenues. One is on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. and the other on the third Friday of each month at 9:30 a.m. **In November the meetings are on the 19th and 21st.**

The meeting is intended as a time to listen to and address people's concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

Take a Hike

Dayton's Bluff Take a Hike occurs on the first Saturday of most months. The next hike is **Saturday, November 1st**. We meet at 10:30 a.m. in Indian Mounds Park at Earl St. and Mounds Blvd. We'll hike from Mounds Park to the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary and then walk along the Bruce Vento Recreational Trail through Swede Hollow Park to the new East Side Heritage Park. Along the way we will share stories and learn some local history of the area. The hike is about four miles long with some moderately rough terrain. Transportation will be available to return to Mounds Park, or you may hike back.

Join us and explore some of our parks and the regional trail. For more information contact Karin at 651-772-2075 or Karin@DaytonsBluff.org.

It's the law! The curfew law, that is!

City of St. Paul Curfew for Juveniles Age 15 or younger: Home by 10 p.m.

Age 16 – 17:

Home by 12 a.m. Midnight

**Saint Paul Police Department
Juvenile Unit**



Photo by Karin DuPaul

They came to "Watch the Glow"

People gathered at Swede Hollow Henge in Swede Hollow Park September 29th. Some of the people only see each other at the Watch the Glow each year. A lot of stories were shared by former Swede Hollow residents, Hamm Brewery employees, and neighbors about Swede Hollow and the Hamm Brewery. In a large circle on top of Swede Hollow Henge everyone shared their reasons why this place is so important to them. A newer resident on Payne Avenue said that when walking through Swede Hollow she knew she wanted to live near this place. An eighty year old neighbor said she played here as a child and has always lived within a few blocks of Swede Hollow. Naomi Chu, Executive Director of the Asian Pacific Culture Center, said how much she enjoys attending the Watch the Grow and meeting all the people and that her

organization is still working on locating their organization in the brewery.

Watch the Glow of the Setting Sun on the Red Brick Brewery is an annual event that started in 1995. It is an opportunity for everyone to join Friends of Swede Hollow to see the beautiful red/orange glow of the brick as the setting sun shines on the buildings. The celebration picnic followed the sun setting.

The evening was filled with more great Brewery and Swede Hollow stories, and music courtesy of Joe Sanchelli.

The event was a great success with lots of great conversions and good food thanks to Morelli's, Culver's on Old Hudson Road, Rainbow on Arcade, and Cub in Sunray, Pepsi and Mike Grealish. Friends of Swede Hollow are already talking about next year's "Watch the Glow".

Rental housing problems? HALO has help

By erin sobaski

Is your rental house in bad need of repairs that never get done? Does your landlord owe you money back on rent? Persons with low income can get free legal advice and representation for these problems and more at HALO. Project HALO is the Housing Alliance Law Office, which helps improve the quality of affordable rental housing in St. Paul. And we have one of their offices right here in Dayton's Bluff.

Project HALO attorneys help tenants:

- If you don't have heat, electricity or running water;
- Get your landlord to make repairs;
- Get you moved if there's an emergency repair;
- If your home is condemned for something you did not do;
- Try to get you some money back on rent.

The newest staffer at the Dayton's Bluff office is Adrian Ody-Weis. Adrian has a dual degree in History and Spanish from the University of Minnesota and is currently applying for law school. She volunteers her time

for support services via AmeriCorp-VISTA (the national service program



designed specifically to fight poverty). She can help you with the intake process, answer questions,

or give you resources for more information.

Project HALO also offers Tenants' Rights Training, which includes topics such as "understanding your lease" or "how to remove an eviction from your record." Please note, this service deals only with rental housing issues and not with foreclosures. Services are only for tenants with a low income.

The Dayton's Bluff HALO office is located in the Community Council building, at 798 E. 7th St., or you can call 651-771-9323. For info on foreclosures and other civil legal issues, or for the intake line, please call the SMRLS main office at 651-222-4731.

Bethlehem Lutheran Craft Show

On **November 22nd** Bethlehem Lutheran Church located at 655 Forest St. is hosting a Craft Show starting at 9:00 a.m. There is still space for Craft Artists. For more information call Collette at 651-230-7683.

Cerenity Craft and Bake Sale

Cerenity Senior Care - Marian of Saint Paul at 200 Earl St. near Mounds Park, is holding its annual Craft and Bake Sale on **Friday Nov. 14th** from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Come and browse and buy a variety of home made goodies!!

Dayton's Bluff spring business class

The next Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur Class is starting in April 2009. This program helps start-up and young businesses on the East Side. All East Side entrepreneurs are welcome.

Class training lasts 8 weeks and includes topics such as operations management, marketing, financial management, one to one assistance with creating a successful business, and preparing a business plan, plus 8 hours of one on one time with the instructor. Those who successfully complete the course and locate their businesses in target neighborhoods are eligible for ongoing business support services.

Some examples of businesses started by people who have previously taken this course include graphics, landscaping, photography, food service, restoration of wood furniture and works of art, custom floral design for weddings and events, and exterior and interior painting. The course is sponsored by the Dayton's Bluff Community Council and the Neighborhood Development Center. There is a small registration fee based on a sliding fee scale. The next session will start in April 2009 and class size is limited.

Please call Karin at 651-772-2075 or email Karin@DaytonsBluff.org for an application.

Block club meetings

*Wilson Avenue Block Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month at Mounds Park United Methodist Church, at Earl and Euclid, at 6:30 p.m.

*Beech/Margaret Block Club meets on the last Tuesday of each month at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, at Margaret and Forest, at 7:00 p.m.

*Margaret Rec Center Block Club meets on the second Thursday of each month at the Margaret Rec Center, at Margaret and Frank, at 6:30 p.m.

If you wish to have your block club listed, or need information about starting your own block club, please contact Karin at 651-772-2075 or Karin@DaytonsBluff.org.

Get rid of a junk car and help the Community Council

Budget Towing of Minnesota, Minnesota's largest towing company, is owned by Roy Carlson, an active Dayton's Bluff Community Council board member. Budget Towing will remove any junk car or truck—located anywhere in Saint Paul—and dispose of it at no charge to the vehicle owner or the property owner where it is located. The vehicle owner will receive paperwork for a tax donation, and Roy will also make a small donation to the Community Council for each car he tows. Call Karin at 651-772-2075 for details.

Dayton's Bluff Recycling

Every Tuesday. Have your recycling on the curb by 7 a.m. Call 651-772-2075 for a bin.

4% and 6.875% Interest Home Improvement Loans

4% Interest		Maximum Loan Amount: \$35,000 HOUSEHOLD INCOME LIMITS FOR 4% INTEREST			
1 Person \$43,050	2 Persons \$49,200	3 Persons \$55,350	4 Persons \$61,500	5 Persons \$66,400	6 Persons \$71,350
7 Persons \$76,250	8 Persons \$81,200	9 Persons \$86,100	10 Persons \$91,000	11 Persons \$93,100	
6.875% Interest		Household Income Limits: \$93,100 Gross Maximum Loan Amount: \$35,000			

Eligible Improvements

- A room addition or a new garage
- Roof replacement, a new paint job, or siding
- Septic system repairs or plumbing
- Accessibility improvements such as bathroom accessibility remodeling or building a ramp
- Furnace/air conditioning installation
- Upgrade or replace electrical wiring
- Energy conservation, including replacing windows and doors or insulating walls or attic space
- Many other repairs and remodeling projects

Terms and Eligibility: You can take up to 20 years to repay the loan

Home Improvement Deferred Payment Loans (Limited Funds Available)

Repayment Terms This loan is secured with a mortgage at zero percent (0%) interest. Loan repayment is deferred until the borrower sells, transfers title, or no longer lives in the property. Depending on funding sources available, the loan may be due in thirty (30) years.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME LIMITS FOR DEFERRED PAYMENT LOANS					
1 Person \$28,300	2 Persons \$32,350	3 Persons \$36,400	4 Persons \$40,450	5 Persons \$43,700	6 Persons \$46,900
7 Persons \$50,150	8 Persons \$53,400	9 Persons \$56,650	10 Persons \$59,850	11 Persons \$63,100	12 Persons \$66,350

Eligible Improvements Basic and necessary improvements that directly affect the safety, habitability, energy efficiency, and accessibility of your home. Correction of lead-based paint hazards is required.

Saint Paul Home Loan Fund
Tchu.Yajh@ci.stpaul.mn.us 651-266-6592



Don't Lose your Home to Foreclosure



Facing foreclosure can be a stressful and complicated time.

Contact us today for FREE counseling to help you learn about the steps necessary to keep your home.

Stay in your home and remain part of your Saint Paul community!



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention
25 West Fourth Street, 12th Floor
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-6626

Para información en español comuníquese con Neighborhood Development Alliance (NeDA) 651-292-0131



Mounds Theatre Happenings

“Rocky Horror Picture Show”

“The Rocky Horror Picture Show” completes its run at the Mounds Theatre on November 1.

The movie, accompanied by live performances and audience participation, will be shown on **October 31 and November 1** at 11:00 p.m. Ticket price is \$7.00. These are special Halloween events.

Real Haunted Tours

November 1 also marks the end of Real Haunted Tours at the Mounds Theatre, in which you will have an opportunity to visit this unique location and have a guided tour led by professional ghost hunters.

The final tours will take place on **October 31 and November 1**. All tickets must be booked in advance due to the limited size of each tour group. Tickets cost \$20 if prepaid or \$25 if paid at the door. Visit www.realhauntedtours.com for more information and to order tickets.

“Barefoot in the Park”

Staring Gate’s seventh season is a Season of Laughter and begins with “Barefoot in the Park”, a play by Neil Simon. It is playing **November 7 – 30** at the Mounds Theatre under the direction of Richard Jackson and featuring the talents of Jane Froiland, Robert Gardner, Nicholas Leeman, Edward Linder, Steven McKillen, and Cynthia Uhrich

Performances:

Fridays - Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday Matinees at 2:00 p.m.

Pay What You Can - Monday, November 17, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.

Audio Described Performance - Sunday, November 23, 2008

Tickets:

\$18 general, \$16 students and seniors. \$10 for high school students. For tickets call 651-645-3503 or visit www.startingate.org

“A Christmas Story” returns

The Historic Mounds Theatre and the Portage for Youth are proud to present live on stage their 5th annual production of “A Christmas Story” by Jean Shepherd.

This classic movie is brought to life on stage for the fifth year in a row to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the film’s release

Humorist Jean Shepherd’s memoir of growing up in the Midwest in the 1940s follows 9-year-old Ralphie Parker in his quest to get a genuine Red Ryder BB gun under the tree for Christmas. Ralphie pleads his case before his mother, his teacher and even Santa Claus himself, with the same and always consistent response: “You’ll shoot your eye out kid.”

All the elements from the beloved motion picture are here including Ralphie’s father winning a lamp shaped like a woman’s leg in a net stocking as a major award; Scut Farkas, the school bully; the boys’ experiment with a wet tongue on a cold flagpole and more.

All profits from this play go to the Portage for Youth to support its programs.

Dates:

December 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, & 20 at 7:30 p.m.

December 7, 14, & 21 2:00 p.m.

Tickets:

Adults: \$15.00
Students/Seniors (55+): \$10.00
Children (12 and under): \$5.00

Order your tickets now because the sell out quickly. Tickets may be purchased by calling the Mounds Theatre at 651-772-2253 or by visiting our website at www.moundstheatre.org.

The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106.



Photo by Karin Dupaul

Chelsea Starr resting on a chair in the Free Reuse Center at this year’s Clean Up.

Neighborhood Clean Up is over for another year

The Dayton’s Bluff Neighborhood Clean Up was held on September 13th. Dayton’s Bluff Community Council Board members, residents, friends, and Reentry Services Sentence to Service did an excellent job of making the clean up flow smoothly. Thanks to everyone who helped with the Clean Up. We appreciate you all.

Neighborhood participation was much higher this year in part because of the free disposal of electronics. Many people found treasures in the Free Stuff reuse area. We appreciate everyone that helped.

A number of local businesses supported our efforts by supplying food, beverages and services. We would like to express our appreciation to Rainbow on Arcade, Cub in Sun Ray Shopping Center, M and H Convenience Store, Culver’s at 2065 Old Hudson Road, and Holiday Gas Station at 1477 East Minnehaha.

We are looking for ways to make the Clean Up even more successful in the future. Let us know if you have any ideas. Call Karin at 651-772-2075 or email Karin@daytonsbluff.org.

Start the holiday season with a book reading!

Kick off your holidays with a special book reading by our own neighborhood historian and enjoy winter treats while you listen.

Steve Trimble, Dayton’s Bluff resident and local history expert, will be reading from and talking about his book, *Historic Photos of St. Paul*. This high-quality, hardcover “coffee table” book is filled with fascinating photos of St. Paul to which Steve has added insightful background and hints of the future. Beginning in the 1840s, this book covers parks, neighborhoods, buildings, and people of St. Paul—including Dayton’s Bluff and the East Side—through the 1970s.

Steve’s talk will begin at 6:30 pm on **Tuesday, November 11th**, at the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council office at 798 East 7th Street. Complimentary holiday cookies and hot cider will be provided. Copies of the book will also be available for purchase and signing by the author. A great gift for anyone who lives, or has lived, in the city of St. Paul. Come and join us! To register email Karin@DaytonsBluff.org or call 651-772-2075.

Another Dayton's Bluff Sort-of-Walking History Tour

By Steve Trimble

You may remember that two issues ago, there was a history walking tour in the lower Bluff area inside of the Dayton's Bluff Historic District. Hope some of you decided to take it. This time will be a return to looking at some of the neighborhood's other interesting houses and buildings in some of the other areas. Since they are scattered around, there will not be an attempt to have an official-type tour with directions. Instead, the structures will be grouped into general areas, and you'll have to find your own way around. The distances are probably too long for walking—at least for me—but perhaps you could make it a bicycle or automobile event.

One of the structures to be covered is inside of the historic district, but it was a little too far away to include in the last tour, so here's the 411 on them:

707 Wilson: Schornstein Building

The first mention of William Schornstein was that he was a bartender at the Tivoli, a downtown tavern. By the 1880's he had a two-story combination saloon and grocery made of brick. Unfortunately in 1884 a fire destroyed that Schornstein building as well as a nearby house, a barn, a harness shop and a frame feed store. The extent of the conflagration may have been because the nearest water at the time had been a cistern at Fifth and Maria, around half a mile away

But Schornstein immediately decided to rebuild in grander fashion. Later that year he hired prominent German-American architect Augustus F. Gauger who designed one of the few French Second Empire style business buildings in the city. The structure attests to the pride that many Victorian commercial owners felt for their workplaces.

The saloon and grocery store was an important gathering place for the area's ethnic Germans. There were meeting rooms on the upper floors, where Schornstein lived from 1885 to 1921. In recent years, this building has been renovated and was been placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984.

East of the Historic District

The next few houses to be considered are in the same general area as the old Schornstein saloon and grocery and fan out eastward toward Hudson and Earl Streets. Some are quite old, others somewhat new, but they all have interesting stories.

963 Wakefield: What Cheer Lawn

William Wakefield in 1859 or 1860 built this estate in what was outside of the city limits. He and his wife named it "What Cheer Lawn." Its yard was once the whole block and it faced Territorial Road, which explains its skewed location in relation to today's modern street.

William Wakefield was born in Rhode Island in 1825 and came to St Paul in 1856. He entered the employ of Knox and Taylor in the dry goods business and stayed with them until after the Civil War. "Of late he has been dealing in real state. He purchased on Dayton's Bluff, then outside the city limits, in 1860, four acres of land for about \$300, worth now close to \$30,000."

"He has adorned his place with beautiful trees, and it is a very lovely and a very desirable home," said an old book named *Pen Pictures*. "Mr. Wakefield is a slender man, unpretentious and undemonstrative, very conscientious in his beliefs and always anxious to do right," the book continued. "He lives a quiet life, and in his own home circle finds pleasures the world



Photo Courtesy Minnesota Historical Society

The Schornstein Building at 707 Wilson was built in 1885 and originally housed a saloon, grocery store, meeting rooms and residential space.

cannot give; and well he may, for he has one of the finest home-surroundings in the city and an amiable and lovely wife."

Less is currently known about Mrs. Wakefield. She was very active on the St. Paul Ladies Relief Association that helped develop the Home for the Friendless. It was later named the Protestant Home, became located on East Seventh and is now known as the Cerenity Nursing Home.

935 Hudson Road: Dr. George Earl House

This remarkable Tudor Revival was built in 1913 as the home and sometimes office of Dr. George Earl, who was born in Iowa. The three bedroom, 89 year-old home has quarter-sawn oak in the dining room, sunroom, and all the hallways. This house has beautiful woodwork and craftsmanship. The living room is of mahogany, and the second floor features cherry.

George Earl was, along with his brother Robert, a founder of the Mounds Park Sanitarium that opened in 1906 at Earl and Thorn, was an important part of the development of Midway Hospital and Gillette Children's Hospital and was an officer of the Mounds Park Bank.

1044 Wilson: Henry L. Gray House

While most people think Summit Avenue when the name of Cass Gilbert comes up, Dayton's Bluff does have one identified house that was designed by the famed architect. It was one of his early more modest houses, but has a great deal of charm.

Its original owner was Henry Gray, a Civil War veteran who came to St. Paul in 1882. He originally rented a house on North Street and worked a variety of jobs, including foreman of a local coal company. After a time, he hired the firm of Gilbert and Taylor in 1887 to design this home.

It was a combination of stick style elements of later shingle style. Cass Gilbert had only been working in the city for three years, but would develop into a premier architect in Minnesota and throughout the nation. In 1895, he won the competition for the design of our State Capitol.

The Grays had no children. They shared the house with boarders at various times. By 1895 Gray was a part-time salesman. In 1897 they moved to Seattle. The new owners rented it for five years before selling it to a traveling salesman for Gotzian Shoe Company who lived there until 1928.

Then the Brown family bought the house and then lived there for he next two decades.

1075 Hudson: The Wolkoff Building

Dr. Wolkoff, with a medical degree from University of Minnesota initially established an office downtown in 1939. He practiced in Dayton's Bluff from 1941 until his death on Nov 17, 1974.

This yellow brick structure was erected in 1941 in a "streamline moderne" architectural style, near the end of the style's popularity. It is a fine example of an interesting commercial style that is unique in this neighborhood.

Homes of Some Community Leaders

This section will consider the homes of various people from different eras. Their contributions are different, but all show how a tradition of community leadership has been a vital part of our neighborhood's heritage.

1205 Ross: Baumeister House

Although the family house is not an architectural gem, it is a structure that has an interesting story that speaks to the neighborhood's history. Its owner, William Baumeister, was born in Germany but came to St. Paul as a young boy. He ended up living in Dayton's Bluff for nearly sixty three years.

In 1900, he formed his own construction company and built many homes and commercial structures on the East Side and throughout the city. For instance, his firm did the 1930's addition to the old Harding High School at Third and Earl which now houses two St. Paul magnet schools. Baumeister also did a great deal of work for the Hamm's Brewery.

Other members of his family joined him in the company, which lasted until the 1960's. Baumeister was a long-time member of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church and served as an alderman from the city's second ward from 1910 to 1914. He died in 1946 at age of 72.

923 Beech: The Buschman House

During the time when many people still used carriages and many businesses delivered, they literally used horsepower as a source of energy. These animals needed to have their metal shoes changed now and then and there was a great need for blacksmiths.

William E. Buschman was one of the city's most well known blacksmiths and one of the last to go out of business with the arrival of the automobile era. He learned the trade from his father who had a shop in Lowertown and then set up his own enterprise at the northwest corner of 7th and Mendota in 1890. He lived in the Bluff from 1883 and started a three-term alderman from the ward in 1908. A great deal of his business was from the nearby Sanitary Farm Dairy.

913 Fremont: The Hull House

Orson Hull is an interesting character who was an important local resident of the community. He never had a college degree but came to value education as he observed people around him as a maintenance employee at 3M. He saved his shares of stock over the many years he was a janitor and his wife left a million dollars in a scholarship fund for East Side youth to attend college.

She died in 1961 and two years later the Orson and Minnie Hull Educational Foundation was launched. The money was to go to graduates of two East Side high schools—Johnson and Harding—where their own children had gone. The scholarships include tuition and fees at state run schools.

847 E. 4th: Harry Blackmun House

The route of the last tour went by the former home of Supreme Court justice Warren Burger so this one will feature the home of Harry Blackmun, who was also a Supreme Court justice.

The 1906 house, a traditional "four-square" was home to the Blackmun family after they moved to St. Paul from Illinois. They ran a grocery store in the area. Harry attended Van Buren Elementary and then went on to Mechanics Art High School. He was a fine student and won a scholarship to Harvard. After graduation he decided to enter Harvard Law School, graduating in 1932.

Blackmun taught for a year at the St. Paul College while he served as law clerk to a U.S. circuit court judge, John B. Sanborn. Blackmun was a member of the law firm Dorsey, Colman, Barker, Scott & Barber of Minneapolis from 1934 to 1950. He later became the resident counsel at the Mayo Clinic and Mayo Association. He was appointed to the Supreme Court by Richard Nixon in 1970.

While he is most remembered for writing the Roe v Wade decision, he was involved in a number of important cases, was an active lecturer on the constitutional matters, especially personal privacy and opposition to the death penalty. He died in 1999.

909 East 5th: The Kraemer House

Ed Kraemer was born in 1905 and lived all of his life in the neighborhood. His grandfather was a German immigrant. As a child he contracted polio and from then on walked with a slightly noticeable limp. He gained strength working for a sister on her farm near Highway 61. This experience nurtured a life-long love of gardening.

He attended Sibley Elementary. In 1937 he married Helen Albrecht and they both moved into the family home that Ed's father had built in 1907. He worked as a freight salesman for several different railroads. He was a long-time member of Peace United Church, a volunteer for Meals on Wheels and a respected member of the Dayton's Bluff Community Council. He spearheaded the fight that stopped the construction of Highway 212 through the neighborhood. He also contributed some articles to the District Forum in its early years.

"Tour" continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

“Tour”

Let's Not Forget Workers Homes

Sometimes neighborhood tours focus on upper income houses. However, Dayton's Bluff has always had an important working class contingent, so some of the smaller structures ought to be included. And just to add a little historic support, here's part of an article that was printed in the Pioneer in 1882:

“In the eastern part of the city, on Dayton's bluff... several hundred dwellings have been erected, many of them being very handsome residences, but the major part being of the medium class, for the use of mechanics and employees of the various and the numerous factories that have sprung up and are springing up in the valley of Phalen's Creek, along the line of the St. Paul & Duluth and the St. Paul & Omaha railroads.”

Sometimes information about the everyday life lives of blue-collar workers is hard to find, but here are the stories of a few of them.

889 E. Margaret: The Zahn House

Years ago the railroad had a great effect on the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood. Because of it many early industrial concerns were located along its tracks. There used to be a small railroad depot at today's Earl and East Seventh. This is a fine example of the worker's cottages that went up in this section of Dayton's Bluff in the 1870's and the next decade.

The house dates from around 1882. This is somewhat of a guess, because this was two years before the city began issuing building permits on a regular basis. Zahn was a cigar maker, a fairly common source of employment in those days. He died and left his wife with several children. She remained in the Margaret Street house, but lost ownership of it in 1891. She seemingly liked the neighborhood, because she stayed on as a renter until 1897.

1087 Ross: The William Smith Home

Built in 1885, this is typical of the many homes built for workers. It was originally owned by William Smith, a foreman at the Minnesota Terra Cotta Works, a factory located two blocks away. At the time Smith built, Phalen Creek flowed through the west side of the property. The foundation and the two chimneys were made of terra cotta—a hard, durable kiln-burnt clay produced by the factory in which he worked.

964 E. Minnehaha: The Eilers House

William Eilers came to St. Paul in 1885 and set up a business as a drayman, running it out of his downtown residence. He served four years in the Civil War. He built the new two story brick Queen Anne style home with eight rooms and three bedrooms in 1889. He conducted business out of it. Eilers died in August, 1910, but the family remained in the home until 1918. It was then bought by the Kingman family, members of which were still in the house in the 1970's.

1020 Bush: The Lyon House

John P. Lyon is said to have been the youngest soldier in the Civil War. Born in New Jersey in 1850, he became a drummer boy for Company G of the 81st Ohio. He had joined up five days before his eleventh birthday. In 1889 he was a letter carrier for the city and later died at his home at 1020 Fauquier (now Bush) on August 22, 1901.

1216 E. 7th: Messerlie House

Built in 1886, this is a fine brick example of Italianate architectural style designed by famed German-American architect Augustus F. Gauge. It was Charles and Marguerite Messerlie's second home. It was on the eastern fringe of city and was almost in a rural area, but the streetcar line had recently been extended out this way making it within fairly easy reach of downtown. The family had large garden lots on all sides and made a living selling vegetables at the downtown farmers market. Members of the family have continued to live in the house, with granddaughter Orlie Messerlie remaining there through the 1990's.

Not all of the historic landmarks need to be homes or businesses. Some are community institutions whose history reveals a great deal about the development of the neighborhood. Such is the case for one of our two remaining recreation centers in the neighborhood.

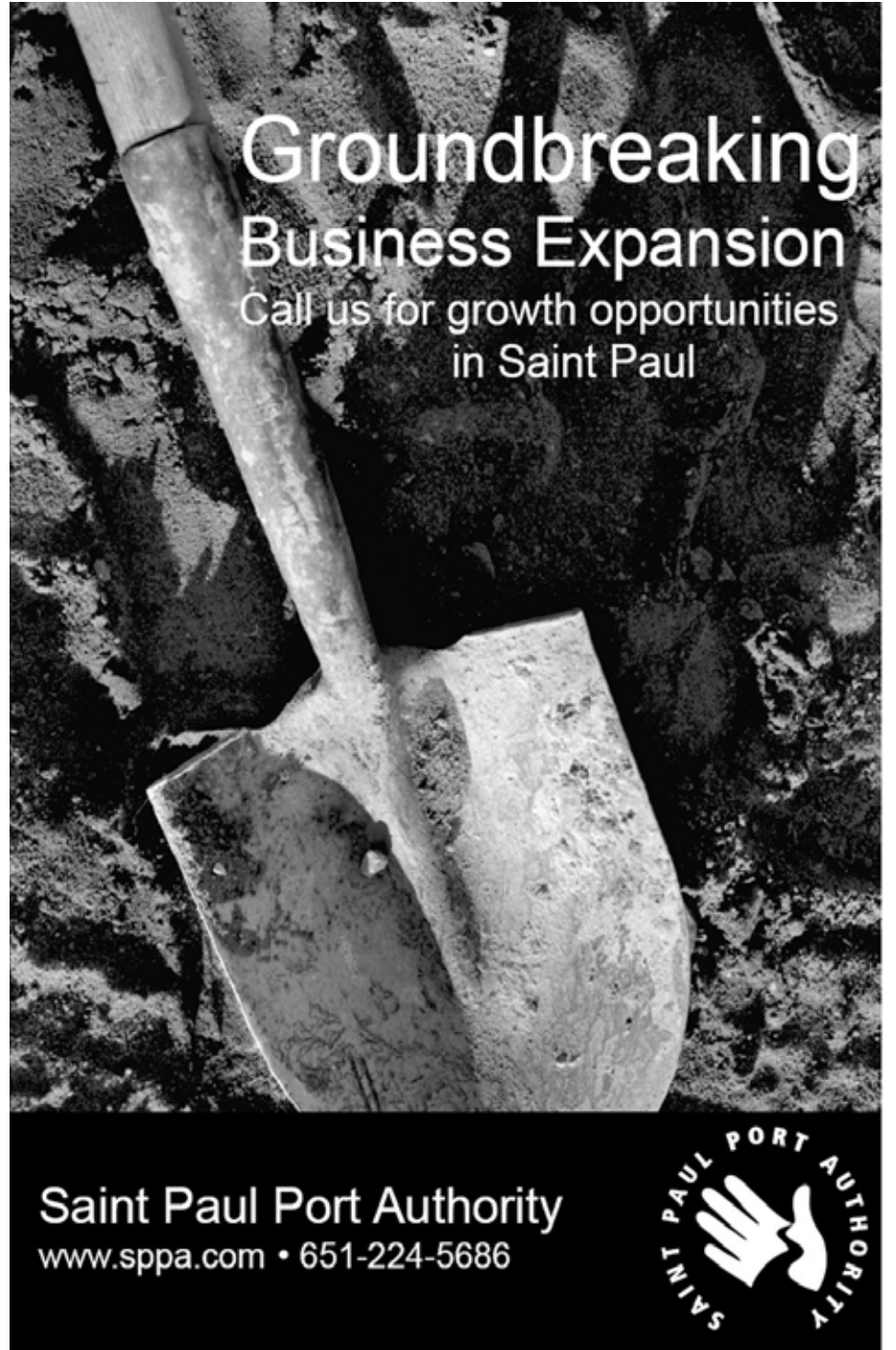
1109 Margaret: Margaret Recreation Center

Here's an example of a relatively new building whose use is for an institution that has a long history in the community. Margaret is thought to be the third oldest playground in St. Paul and was started as part of a local and national initiative called the “playground movement.” The people behind this movement felt strongly that play spaces for youth recreation were needed in the nation's rapidly expanding urban areas.

The city bought a strip of land behind Sibley school in 1907 and from the outset activities were begun. The Margaret Maroons won a municipal baseball championship in 1909 before there was even a building. The first shelter was built in 1910.


The Margaret Boosters were organized in November 1920. They went to the city to see if they could help with the running of the playground. One early volunteer once spoke about the group's origin: “We used to go down to the playground and find three or four kids ganged up on the director. It was getting so bad you couldn't keep a director more than a few months. We decided to do something about it.” It seems that tough kids hanging out a recreation centers is nothing new.

The boosters went around, “signing up new members and holding dances, bingo games, playground festivals,” and, “mooching” money from local merchants to buy equipment, one member said. By 1921 there were thirty members in the booster club. Margaret was one of only two year-round facilities in 1929.



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Church Directory

Amazing Grace Assembly of God

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651-778-1768
Sun 9:30 am - Sunday school all ages
Sun 10:30 am - morning Worship
Sun 6:00 pm - evening Worship

Hmong Asbury United Methodist

815 Frank St.
651-771-0077

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

655 Forest St.
651-776-4737
Sun 9:00 am - Morning Service
Sun 10:15-11:15 am - Sunday School & Bible Hour
Sun 11:15 - Hmong Service

Faith Temple - Templo De Fe

1510 Payne Ave
651-778-0096
Sun 10:30 am - Spanish Bilingual Service
Sun 6:00 pm - Spanish Bilingual Service
Wednesday family night

First Lutheran Church ELCA

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St. Paul, MN 55106
651-776-7210
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Sun 8:00 am - Free Community Breakfast
Sun 9:30 am - Worship service
Sun 10:45 am - Education for all ages
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651-774-8736
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10:30 am - Worship

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674 Johnson Pkwy
651-774-2396
Sunday Worship - 9:15am
Education Hour - 10:30 am
Wednesday Worship - 6:30 pm

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

840 E. 6th St.
651-776-2741
Sat 4:00 pm - Mass
Sun 9:00 am - Mass
Mon, Wed, Fri 8:00 am - Weekday Service

St. John's Catholic Church

977 E. 5th St.
651-771-3690
Mon-Sat 8:00 am - Daily Mass
Sat 4:15 pm - Mass
Sun 9:00 am, 11:00 am - Mass

St. John's Outreach Ministry

1154 E. 7th St.
651-771-7639
Sun 9:30 am - Sunday School
Sun 10:45 am - Worship
Wed 7:00 pm - Bible Study

St. John Ev. Lutheran

765 Margaret St.
651-771-6406
Sun 9:30 am - Worship
Thurs 6:30 pm - Worship



Photo Courtesy Minnesota Historical Society

The original Margaret Recreation Center was behind the old Sibley School.

Overindulgence not good for children

By Mary Ann Cogelow

In this month when we are reminded to be “thankful,” and when the day after Thanksgiving has for many years been the biggest shopping day of the year in the United States, it seems appropriate to think a little about overindulgence, why we overindulge children, and what effect overindulgence has on them. This is a very old concern. I remember from my own very early childhood the “tut-tuting” tone of conversations among my mother, grandmother, and aunts when they discussed someone who was “spoiling” her child. I’m sure that this concern was present through all of the twentieth century, and I would bet people have had this notion far longer than that though they may have used different language to describe it.

When I checked through my file on this topic, I found a long list of books about overindulgence and I have read many articles in the popular press talking about the issue in the past several years, but I’m going to describe some of the ideas in books and other materials written by authors with a Minnesota connection. In 2003 Jean Illsley Clarke, Connie Dawson, and David Bredehoft published *How Much Is Enough? Everything You Need to Know to Steer Clear of Overindulgence and Raise Likeable, Responsible and Respectful Children from Toddlers to Teens*. In 2007 David Walsh published *No, Why Kids - of All Ages - Need to Hear It - and Ways Parents Can Say It*.

What is overindulgence? Jean Clarke says it is giving children too much, too soon and for too long in terms of stuff and also of entertainment. She would also say that it involves soft structure and over-nurture. Both of these would probably have been described in my grandmother’s kitchen as “coddling” or “babying,” or “expecting too little of.” Clarke believes that over-nurture includes hovering, intruding, or depriving a child of the opportunity to reach out, to learn new skills, to feel the thrill of achievement, or to experience consequences. She thinks that soft structure gives children too much freedom; doesn’t teach skills for living, rules, or boundaries; fails to insist that children contribute to the family by performing age appropriate chores; and doesn’t pay enough attention to children’s safety. And, by the way, while overindulgence in material and entertainment experiences may be easier to identify, research says the most serious damage is done to children by over-nurture and soft structure.

What does overindulgence do to kids? Why does the judgmental tone of conversations I heard more than sixty years ago come so freshly to my mind when I think about this topic? Because overindulgence truly damages children and my mom and her family knew it. Jean Clark describes it as a form of child neglect. David Walsh says that overindulgence inhibits the child’s ability to develop the areas of the brain (prefrontal cortex) that are necessary for establishing balance between self-indulgence and responsible behavior, and he would argue that how the brain is built has enormous, life-long importance. Overindulgence gets in the way of the children’s mastery of developmental tasks. It prevents them from learning boundaries, skills, responsibilities, and self-control. It lessens their resilience and self-motivation. It reduces their ability to make and keep friends. They may feel, and grow up continuing to feel, insecure, anxious, worthless, incompetent, self-centered and depressed. They may find it difficult to function in an adult world. The choices they make as adults may be dangerous and self-damaging. They may never achieve their full potential.

If overindulgence so clearly threatens the healthiest possible development of children, why do we do it? Clarke insists that the root cause is a “good heart,” we love our kids and want them to be happy. Some of us also overindulge because we remember clearly the pain of poverty or of some other serious deprivation – a chemically dependent,

disabled, or workaholic parent, and want to spare our children pain. And we sometimes do it for self-gratification to give ourselves the reward of our child’s pleasure or to “get the kid off my back.” However, we need to balance our own desire for self-indulgence with the responsibilities inherent in parenting and make choices which truly enhance our children’s growth.

What to do? Some of what to do is implied in the descriptions of what not to do. Ron L. Pitzer, another Minnesota voice who for decades has contributed wisdom about the role of parenting with his articles in *Young Families*, the newsletter from the Extension Division at the University of Minnesota, suggests the following: Be a role model and practice what you preach. Restrict television viewing so children are less bombarded with messages about things they think they have to have to be popular, successful, entertained. Teach children about money, wise consumer behavior, and let them know about family finances in ways that are appropriate for their ages. Help them save, spend, and give wisely. Be consistent in the rules you have for children and be sure both parents apply them. Clarke and Walsh both insist that you must be the parent in your family. And Walsh insists that you must continue to hear your children even when you decide to say “no” to their wishes and wants.

There is much more to be said and reflected upon about avoiding the temptation to overindulge. I would recommend reading either of the books I named in this article or finding others. But this brings me back to my mother and a different reading suggestion. For four days in mid-August my adult daughter Maren and I made a pilgrimage to Southwestern Minnesota. Our primary goal was to see the farmstead in the farthest southwestern corner of the state where my mother was born and raised. We knew we also wanted to visit some other sites on our journey – the Jeffers Petroglyphs, Blue Mounds State Park, Pipestone National Monument, and Walnut Grove and Plum Creek, locations of some of Laura Ingalls Wilder’s “Little House” books. Because we planned to go to the Plum Creek site, we listened to the recorded version of *On the Banks of Plum Creek* as we drove.

To the best of my knowledge, I last read the Wilder books when I was in elementary school. As a child, my concerns were pretty unsophisticated – I just wanted an interesting read. What a revelation to listen to one of those books many, many years later. Evaluating it as an adult, I was struck by the clarity with which Laura’s perspective as a young child is shared, the richness of characterization, the wealth of detail evoking frontier life, the parenting styles of Ma and Pa – in some ways very old fashioned and in others surprisingly as fresh as anything I would suggest in Early Childhood Family Education classes now. But as much as anything as I listened to this book I reflected on how severely Spartan and simultaneously rich life is for Laura and her family in these mid-nineteenth century years and how much the family life described in these pages accomplishes what overindulgence threatens. It is clear the Wilder family is poor in economic terms. But Ma and Pa might have taken their family structure from Clarke and Walsh. The parents are clearly parental. The children are dearly loved and well known by their parents. Mary and Laura have clear responsibilities – “Pa often said he did not know how he could manage without Laura” as a helper. There are real and significant riches: all the nature of the prairie, Pa’s fiddle playing and singing, Jack, the dog, to name but a few.

Reading the “Little House” books again turned out for me to be a useful additional way to think about the issues of overindulgence and healthy child development. If your children are old enough, reading these books together and talking about them would accomplish many good parenting goals. I don’t want to go back to a carbon copy of the world of Laura Ingalls or to the styles of my parents or grandparents either. Neither was perfect and some aspects of both are deeply troubling to me. But there is much to be gained from reflection on these worlds which can help us evaluate how we want to parent and to guess what the outcomes of our choices might be. And besides, reading Laura Ingalls Wilder is rich and not overindulgent.



Photo by erin sobaski

Youth Sign/Clean-up Project is recognized as a success

By erin sobaski

The signs are gone, but the pride remains. Youth from the Dayton’s Bluff and Margaret Recreation Centers wrapped up their summer program in late September, and then celebrated with a recognition party in early October.

After distributing flyers to notify residents of the project, and placing colorful motivational signs in select yards, the clean-up began. In the end, more than 120 city blocks were cleared of litter—many blocks more than once. But more important than the cleaning, was the sense of pride and achievement felt by both youth and residents.

“I think it was great because we were helping the community,” said Kellen Sobaski, one of the youngest participating youth at age 9. “I hope it means people won’t do it [litter] again.” Seventeen-year-old Rasheed Johnson concurred, saying the group hopes the effects of the project will last.

Resident Jennifer Marcus Newton had a set of signs (Be Productive/Be Polite/Be Peaceful) placed in her yard. “Beatrice [a youth worker] and the kids came by to install my block’s signs and do some cleaning. What a wonderful group of people they are,” said Newton. “The whole block’s mood was elevated as a result.”

Stories like these were aplenty. Many residents came out to shake the

kids’ hands, offer help or bring them cookies and lemonade. These moments were not lost on the kids.

“They were thrilled to be given a sense of responsibility for their own neighborhood,” said Colin Moore, one of two youth workers, along with Beatrice Collins. Moore and Collins were instrumental in keeping the program going. As any parent of a teen or tween will attest, it’s not easy to get them to clean up after themselves, let alone neighborhood trash. Said Collins, “It did take a push—but not a lot.”

The youth were recognized for their accomplishments with a party on Oct. 10. The kids talked about their views of the project while enjoying pizza, breadsticks and soda. Afterward, they played Wii™ games and basketball on the court, and had make-your-own ice cream sundaes.

On that same day, a story appeared in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* about the anti-litter project. “When you look at the neighborhood in a different lens,” said Johnson in the article, “you realize you can do something to contribute and help things go on a different route.”

Getting recognition from the Dayton’s Bluff community and the City of St. Paul for the positive work the youth did was a great way to wrap things up. The goal of this project was to bolster community engagement and reduce litter. Goal scored.



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The Regime: Our View

"Giving Voice to Our Teens"

Sign/Clean-up project a success!

Youth from the Margaret and Dayton's Bluff Recreation Centers completed the sign/clean-up project in early October (see full article in this paper). Youth and residents alike saw this project as a victory for Dayton's Bluff. The story also made the front page of the *Pioneer Press*' "Local" section on October 10.

Way to go youth!!



◀ A few project team members from Margaret, led by Beatrice Collins (lower right), celebrated at a party to thank teens for their hard work. The party included pizza, sundaes, Wii games and basketball.

Add *your* voice. Attend a meeting.

For more information, contact one of the locations below.

Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center • 800 Conway St. • 651-793-3885 | Margaret Recreation Center • 1109 Margaret St. • 651-298-5719

WANTED:



TEENS

for The Regime teen club

*must be willing to have fun
and stay out of trouble*

Contact Tiffany at the Dayton's Bluff Rec Center

He's back! An old friend and neighbor returns to Dayton's Bluff

A famous native of Dayton's Bluff was recently spotted back in his hometown. The Hamm's Bear, who had retired out of state a number of years ago, just couldn't stay away from his beloved neighborhood. He has moved back and now resides on Greenbrier Street, not far from his birthplace.

When a towering elm tree in the front yard of the former William Hamm house contracted Dutch elm disease, it seemed like a tragedy. The tree had been planted around 1900. Its stately presence, abundant shade, and nesting place for generations of birds and squirrels would be lost forever. Wanting to bring some good out of this unfortunate situation, the DuPaul family arranged for the dead stump to become art. Karin and Richard DuPaul have been involved in preserving local history, especially Hamm's history, for many years. Richard's nephew Tommy, who runs Visions Tree Service, took down the tree's massive crown, leaving enough stump for carving. Tommy then recommended artist Curtis Ingvaldstad to transform dead wood into sculpture. Lo and behold, inside that old tree was the Hamm's Bear, just waiting to be revealed!

Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday November 2nd. Remember to set your clocks back one hour.

St. John's Church of God in Christ has new name

By June Bennett

St. John's Church of God in Christ at 1154 East 7th Street has changed its name to St. John's Outreach Ministry. Rev. Hamilton is planning on having a buffet two days a week in his restaurant so be looking for those dates in the next issue. Also in November he is going to be serving Thanksgiving dinner to the homeless again this year. They have Wednesday night Bible Study starting at 7:00 p.m. and church every Sunday starting at 10:45 a.m.

Learn about new home ownership and personal financial topics

Community Neighborhood Housing Services and the Dayton's Bluff Branch of Saint Paul Public Libraries presents: Home Club - a club for improving the home ownership experience and working on personal financial topics.

It meets **the second Thursday of each month** from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Dayton's Bluff Library, 645 7th St E., Library - Room 218.

Meetings are designed to learn from experts in the field and share experience from the community. Sample topics include: how to winterize, finding low/no cost home improvement loans and financial literacy. To learn more or to find out about this month's topics, please call 651-793-1699 or check out the blog at <http://homeclub2008.blogspot.com/>

That must have been one big rainstorm



Photo by Greg Cosimini

Residents of Dayton's Bluff are used to finding a variety of flotsam and jetsam in their alleys, usually consisting of old furniture, appliances and general refuse. But our neighbors on Euclid found something a bit larger on the morning of October 3rd when this boat appeared in their alley. Less than a week later a pickup truck camper was found in the same area. Was someone cleaning out his garage or did a flying saucer have to jettison some weight before returning to its home star system? You decide.

Notice of brownfields cleanup grant application

In July 2008, the City of Saint Paul Division of Parks and Recreation acquired 1.85 acres of land adjacent to the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary for future use as an interpretive center. As a first step in redeveloping the area the City is applying for a brownfields cleanup grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. A draft of the grant will be available for public review and comment at the Dayton's Bluff Community Council office (798 East Seventh Street) and downloadable from the Lower Phalen Creek Project website: www.phalencreek.org.

A public meeting on the redevelopment and grant proposal will be held on Thursday November 13 at 6:30 PM at the Dayton's Bluff Community Council office - 798 East Seventh Street, St. Paul. At this meeting citizens will hear about and be able to review the draft proposal and provide comments.

For more information, contact Karin DuPaul at 651.772.2075.

Don't forget to vote on Tuesday, November 4th. This is a really important election.

VOTE SHELDON JOHNSON FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE ON NOVEMBER 4!



Lower Property Taxes

Rep. Johnson believes Eastside families deserve a break from rising property taxes.

- He fought for more state aid to St. Paul to reduce local property taxes.
- He delivered \$25 million in direct property tax relief to homeowners.
- He worked to restore state cuts to local police and fire departments.

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Rep. Johnson helped make nation-leading health care reforms that will make Minnesota a healthier, more affordable place to live.

- He helped provide health care coverage for 37,000 uninsured children.
- He made coverage more affordable for Minnesotans.
- He streamlined the billing process to reduce costs.
- He focused on preventive measures to help Minnesotans live a healthy life.

Strong Communities

Rep. Johnson will continue to focus on the issues and values important to Eastside families.

- Safer streets, expanded opportunities for early childhood education, smaller class sizes, lower college tuition, and funding for area parks and trails.



Re-Elect State Representative

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www.sheldonjohnson.com

sheldon@sheldonjohnson.com

Prepared and paid for by Volunteers for Johnson (Sheldon) Committee; 2031 Howard St. S., St Paul, MN 55119



Photo by Greg Cosimini

This house at 1097 Hudson Road was destroyed by fire in the early hours of October 8th. The Fire Marshall has ruled it arson. The fire reignited around 10 a.m. The house was torn down the next day.

MOUNDS PARK BARBER STYLISTS



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